

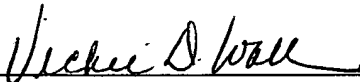


IFW
Receipt

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Vickie D. Wall

Applicant : Yuichi Mori, et al. Confirmation No. 3091
Application No. : 10/542,392
Filed : July 15, 2005
Title : PLANT-CULTIVATING DEVICE AND PLANT-CULTIVATING METHOD
Grp./Div. : 3644
Examiner : Susan C. Alimenti
Docket No. : 55610/A400

LETTER TO CORRECT FILING RECEIPT

Office of Initial Patent Examination's
Filing Receipt Corrections
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068
July 26, 2006

Commissioner:

When proofing the Filing Receipt for the above-identified application, we located the following error:

In the Title:

Delete: Method and utensil for cultivating plant

and

Replace with: Plant-cultivating device and plant-cultivating method

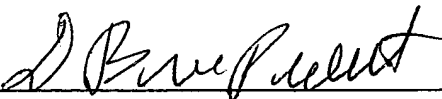
Enclosed is a copy of the filing receipt noting the correction to be made, a copy of the first page of the English translation of the application as filed containing the correct title, and pages 1 and 2 of the preliminary amendment submitted with the application on July 15, 2005, requesting amendment of the title.

Application No. 10/542,392

Please forward a Corrected Filing Receipt to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By 

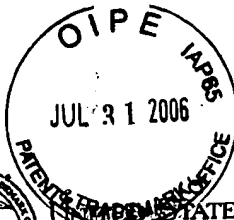
D. Bruce Prout

Reg. No. 20,958

626/795-9900

DBP/vdw
Enclosures

VDW PAS693145.1-*07/26/06 2:20 PM

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Page 1 of 3

MAR 11 2006

Christie, Parker & Hale, LLP

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APPL NO.	FILING OR 371 (c) DATE	ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLMS	IND CLMS
10/542,392	07/15/2005	3643	1150	55610/DBP/A400	42	8	3

CONFIRMATION NO. 3091

23363
CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP
PO BOX 7068
PASADENA, CA 91109-7068

FILING RECEIPT

OC000000017974478

A400:
55610
CASE # ACTION
REMINDER DUE DATE
DEADLINE

Date Mailed: 03/01/2006

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please mail to the Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria Va 22313-1450. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

Yuichi Mori, Yokohama, Kanagawa, JAPAN;
Akihiro Okamoto, Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa, JAPAN;
Makiko Kubota, Enzan-shi, Yamanashi, JAPAN;
Shinya Ohtsubo, Chofu-shi, Tokyo, JAPAN;

Power of Attorney: The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 23363.

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a 371 of PCT/JP04/00319 01/16/2004

Foreign Applications

JAPAN 2003-010198 01/17/2003
JAPAN 2003-336064 09/26/2003

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 02/02/2006

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US10/542,392**

Projected Publication Date: 05/11/2006

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

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Title

~~Method and utensil for cultivating plant~~

Plant-cultivating device and Plant-cultivating method

Preliminary Class

047

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Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process **simplifies** the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

Almost every country has its own patent law, and a person desiring a patent in a particular country must make an application for patent in that country in accordance with its particular laws. Since the laws of many countries differ in various respects from the patent law of the United States, applicants are advised to seek guidance from specific foreign countries to ensure that patent rights are not lost prematurely.

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Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html>.

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DESCRIPTION

PLANT-CULTIVATING DEVICE AND PLANT-CULTIVATING METHOD5 Technical Field

10 The present invention relates to a plant-cultivating device, a plant-film integrate (or composite), and a plant-cultivating method. More specifically, the present invention relates to a plant-cultivating device having a film which can substantially be integrated with the root of a plant; a plant-film integrate having a plant body and a film which has substantially been integrated with the root of the plant body; and a plant-cultivating method using the plant-cultivating device.

15 According to the present invention, the supply of oxygen and the supply of water and a nutrient component to a plant body can preferably be function-separated, and therefore there can be resolved many problems associated with the direct contact of a root of plant and a nutrient fluid (or nutrient solution), as a basis of the nutrient fluid cultivation, inclusive of: difficulty in oxygen supply to the root, necessity of strict control of the nutrient components, the contamination of the nutrient fluid by the root, and the pathogenic contamination of the plant by the contaminated nutrient fluid, etc.

20 Further, by using the plant-cultivating device according to the present invention, the plant to be cultivated can be placed under a water-suppressed condition so that the plant can easily be changed into a high-quality one.

30 Further, by using the plant-cultivating device according to the present invention, the pathogenic contamination of the plant by the contaminated nutrient fluid can be prevented, and therefore it becomes possible to conduct a culture using a sugar-containing medium, i.e. the tissue culture of a cloned seedling or plantlet.

35

Background Art



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV351242154US

Appl No. : N/A Confirmation No.
Applicant : Yuichi Mori, et al.
Filed : July 15, 2005
Title : PLANT-CULTIVATING DEVICE AND PLANT-CULTIVATING
METHOD (AS AMENDED)

TC/A.U. : N/A
Examiner : N/A

Docket No. : 55610/DBP/A400
Customer No. : 23363

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068
July 15, 2005

Commissioner:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 5 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.

Appln No. N/A
Amdt date July 15, 2005

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the title as follows:

-- PLANT-CULTIVATING DEVICE AND PLANT-CULTIVATING METHOD --

After the title please add the following:

-- CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a National Phase Patent Application of International Application Number PCT/JP2004/000319, filed on January 16, 2004, which claims priority of Japanese Patent Application Number 2003-010198, filed on January 17, 2003, and Japanese Patent Application Number 2003-336064, filed on September 26, 2003. --.

Please replace the 8th and 9th paragraphs of page 8 beginning with line 31 and ending with line 36 with the following:

-- Fig. 7, including Figs. 7a and 7b, is a schematic sectional view showing a further example of an embodiment of the plant-cultivating device according to the present invention.

Fig. 8, including Figs. 8a and 8b, is a schematic sectional view showing a further example of an embodiment of the plant-cultivating device according to the present invention. --.